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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

2 MAR 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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MAR 5 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Richard E. Neal  
U.S. House of Representatives  
131 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Neal:

This is in reply to your letter of February/12, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Bob Fisher, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituent is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituent's concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest. Your constituent's letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

*Joseph A. Levin*  
Richard J. Shiben

Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division  
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

cc:

Chief, PR Bureau

Chief, LM&M Division

Docket Files, Room 222

P&P Branch File (Pink)

CNTL NO - 9300695

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ENCLOSURE

# Congressional

DUE OBC: 2-26-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM  
02/18/93

## LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300695	02/18/93	02/12/93	03/03/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Richard Neal	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Bob Fisher	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/Neil			
2-19-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/18/93			

REMARKS:

February 2, 1993

The Honorable Richard E. Neal  
United States House of Representatives  
437 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Neal:

I am a member of the Sparks remote control flying and building club, from your district. I derive many hours of enjoyment from being an active member. In the Western Massachusetts area there are six clubs with an active membership of over 700.

I am very concerned about the proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC). The proposed bill for consideration is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of the frequencies currently assigned for the modelers use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model planes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without interfering with each other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to the radio operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left for the modeler.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators, bystanders and the protection of the property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies are diminished as proposed by the FCC the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if the radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the full use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to insure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of the radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. I am sure you are aware radio controlled models have been used by the military.

please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime and allow me to pass on to the next generation a hobby that promotes good clean fun, by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

16 FISHER LN.  
HAMPDEN MA. 01906

Sincerely

R. E. Neal

RICHARD E. NEAL  
SECOND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

WHIP AT-LARGE



COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

PRB  
92-235  
695

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 12, 1993

Lauren Belvin  
Acting Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room 808  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Director Belvin:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I recently received from a constituent of mind regarding FCC rules on model airplane radio remote control units. I have received similar letters from several other model airplane enthusiasts in my area. Please examine the contents of this letter and bring me up-to-date on the situation involving these model airplanes.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

RICHARD E. NEAL  
Member of Congress

REN:mab